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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN  
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Correspondence from particular farmers, giving the results of their experiments, is welcome.

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## AGRICULTURAL.

DIPPING nails into oil will make them drive more easily into hard wood.

STUDY the strainer. In many an unsuccessful milk route the trouble begins there.

GARDENER BUDLONG grew 125 acres of cucumber pickles last season. The crop was marketed in New York.

FOR early broilers the incubators should be in full blast by this time, but for laying stock April hatching is early enough.

CUCUMBERS are becoming increasingly popular as a green house crop. For the man who thoroughly understands it hardly anything pays better.

NO wire strainer made will thoroughly clean milk of hairs and similar substances. Cotton cloth will stop hairs, and several thicknesses are much better than one.

IF the apple tree did not make a growth of six to eight inches all over the top in a favorable season like the last something must be the matter with the tree, or the soil.

ACCORDING to Professor Maynard the New York Imperial apple probably has a promising future in New England, although it may not be hardy enough for the three northern states.

A HALF barrel sawed in two lengthwise can be made to serve as a chicken coop. Nail the hoops to the stays before sawing. Make one end of laths. This coop is much better than a whole barrel which is sometimes used.

CUTTING back the top will sometimes renovate an old tree. The roots having less to do will it do more vigorously, and will push forward the remaining top into new life. Rerooting has a similar effect for the same reason.

THE handiest house for early chickens is made of boards nailed together A shaped, with a little window at one side, and an entrance at the end. Make a little yard of laths separate, which can be moved up to the entrance of the chicken house.

ONE Massachusetts fruit grower planted about 100 peach trees in his hen yard and has harvested several large crops, but as a general rule, peach trees in such locations are very short lived because of the excess of nitrogen in the soil. Plums and pears are better fruits for the henyards.

THERE is quite a knack in washing out small milk cans. First immerse them in alkali and warm, not hot, water, and work about a swab inside, paying particular attention to the corners, and rinse in very hot water. The milkman must not trust to customers to wash out the cans or trouble will follow.

## Quality Versus Quantity.

Time and time again we read advice given to farmers to the effect that their principal aim should be to raise the largest possible quantity of fruit or vegetables from a given area. This is good, sound, sensible advice, but if followed literally we fear that the results may sometimes prove disappointing. Quantity is a desirable item on the farm, but unless there is some quality combined with it, it does not cut much of a figure. What farmer would care to gather 300 bushels of small, scabby, unsaleable Irish potatoes, in place of 150 bushels of large, healthy, smooth tubers; yet we are sorry to say that many of them are doing this very thing year after year, and not only with their potatoes, but with their vegetables and fruits as well. Is it a wonder then that we hear so many complaints of hard times and low prices and desires to give up farming for some more (supposed) profitable line of business?

M. J. SHELTON.

The man who possesses skill enough to double the size of his crops has brains enough to raise farm products that will command the highest market prices, but the only consideration is that he must use those brains to think. There is seldom, if ever, an excess of really fine fruit or vegetables, and the grower who raises such and at the same time continually tries to make his own "just a little better than the best" is never at a loss where to dispose of his products—and at a profit, too.

When you look into the matter from a practical standpoint it is no wonder that there is such striking contrast between the character of the products raised by different farmers. The "ordinary" farmer, if such we may term him, is superficial in his methods. He merely scratches the surface of his soil, which, of course, gives the plant a very limited field for foraging about for food.

He leaves lumps and clods in his land, which prevent the free and easy passage of air and water and naturally his crops will suffer more or less during unfavorable weather. His fertilizers, if he applies such, is selected because it is "cheapest," not because it is best suited to his particular soil and crop. As to applying it, that is done in the easiest way and at the most convenient time. It does not occur to him that often the entire success of the crop is dependent upon the manner and time of feeding the plants.

It may be inferred from all this that the care and attention during the growing season will be in keeping with the preliminary preparations, and can we wonder, then, that his balance will be on the "offside" of the ledger, and in striking contrast with his neighbor who, in getting ready for planting, reduces his land to the finest condition possible, so that the air and water can do their good work, and the small rootlets of the plant be unimpeded in their search for needed nourishment.

Another important fact that he bears in mind is that plants of all kinds must have their food in a liquid and not a solid condition. He therefore takes all steps to facilitate this change from the solid to liquid form which must occur before the fertilizers applied can do one particle of good to his crop. He finds that this change is gradual, therefore allows plenty of time for it to occur, and instead of following the common practice of applying fertilizers at planting time, he does so some time before. In the former case, especially in dry seasons, the fertilizers do not become dissolved nor disseminated, and the young crops are deprived of that nourishment at the start which is so necessary to give them a good "send-off." The result is that they are sickly and puny all through the season. On the other hand, when applied sometime during the preceding fall or winter, or where that is not convenient, early in the spring, so as to allow them a good chance to go through that change which has just been described, they furnish sustenance to the crop throughout the growing season, and the result is that a large crop of good, sound, healthy tubers is gathered.

The actions of the different forms of plant food—phosphoric acid, potash

and nitrogen—must be carefully studied, and the latter should be applied in the proper quantities. No rule can be given that will apply to all soils, hence, every farmer has to make a study of the needs of his particular soil and govern himself accordingly.

Again, it is not a wise policy to adopt the plan of applying, for example a given quantity of acid phosphate or bone meal for phosphoric acid, muriate or sulphate for potash, and tankage, blood, or nitrate of soda for nitrogen, year after year without change. It may be that one or the other can be increased or decreased with profit. Still further bear in mind that while you are striving each year to get larger crops and better quality of products, your ultimate aim should be to bring your soil up to the highest notch of fertility. Thorough cultivation, a suitable rotation, and judicious fertilizer will be your greatest aids in accomplishing this end.

M. J. SHELTON.

## Raising Melons.

Those who wish to procure melons in perfection, must be careful, in the first place to procure good seed, secondly to plant them remote from an inferior sort, as well as from cucumbers, squash etc., as degeneracy will infallibly be the consequence of inattention to these directions. Seed under the age of two years is apt to run too much to vine, and show only male flowers. Seed twenty years old has been known to grow and make fruitful plants; but seed which has been kept three or four years is quite old enough, and less likely to fail than older.

Some time in May, prepare a piece of rich sandy ground, well exposed to the sun; manure it and give it a good digging, then mark it out into squares of six feet every way; at the angle of every square dig a hole twelve inches deep, and eighteen over, into which put seven inches of very rotten manure with the addition of a carbonated alkali, as the melon draws heavily of this ingredient from the soil; throw on this about four inches of earth and mix the dung and earth well with the spade; after which draw the remainder of the earth over the mixture, so as to form a round hill about a foot broad on top. When the hills are prepared as above, plant in each, toward the center, eight or nine grains of good melon seed, distant two inches from one another, and cover them about half an inch deep. When the plants are up, and in a state of forwardness, producing their rough leaves, they must be thinned to two or three in each hill; draw earth from time to time round the hills, and as high about the plant as the seed leaves; when fit stop them.

This operation should be performed when the plants have two rough leaves, and when the second is about an inch broad, having the first runner-bud rising at its base; the sooner this is detached, the sooner the plants acquire strength and put out fruitful runners. It is done as follows: You will see arising in the centre of the plant, at the bottom of the second rough leaf, the end of the first runner, like a small bud; which bud or runner, being the advancing top of the plant, is now to be taken off close, and may be done either with the point of a pen knife or small scissors, or pinched off carefully with the finger and thumb; but, whichever way you take it off, be careful not to go so close as to wound the joint from whence it proceeds.

As the fruit bearers come into blossom, you may assist the setting of the fruit by impregnating some of the female blossoms with the male flowers. As the fruit increases to the size of a walnut, place a shingle under each to protect it from the damp of the earth. When the fruit of the first crop is off, a second crop may be obtained from the same stools, which often prove more productive than the first. If the first crop is taken before the middle of June, the second will come at a very good time. For this purpose, as soon as the fruit is cut, prune the plant. Shorten the vigorous healthy runners at a promising joint, to force out new laterals, cutting about two inches above the joint, at the same time take off all decayed or sickly

vines and all dead leaves. Stir the surface of the mold, and renew it partially by three inches depth of fresh compost, and water copiously. The composition of the ash of the muskmelon is carbonic acid, 11.55, silica acid, 2.20, phosphoric acid, 25.40, sulphuric acid, 3.90, phosphate of iron, 2.30, lime, 5.85, magnesia, 0.60, potash, 8.35, soda, 34.35, chlorine, 5.20.

## SEEDLESS MELONS.

It is said seedless melons can be produced by burying the vine when three feet long, four inches deep in the ground and one and one-half foot from the root of vine, let it remain until it takes root, then cut vine between main root and new root. Melons on vine with new roots will be seedless.

## FATTENING MELONS.

Before the melon has attained its full size, and while in a growing condition, insert one end of a strip of fine cotton cloth, about half an inch wide and three or four inches long, into the stem of the melon, by splitting the stem with a sharp knife, and place the other end of the strip into the neck of a wine bottle filled with water, inclining the bottle so that the water may be absorbed by the string, which acts as a syphon, and the end on the outside of the bottle should be a little lower than that which is within the bottle, and in twenty-four hours the bottle should be refilled as the water will have been imbibed by the melon, and in a week or ten days will have attained its full size. You will then withhold the water to give it a chance to ripen, otherwise it will be

quite insipid and unfit to eat.

ANDREW H. WARD.

## A Peach Grower's View.

We note that a bill has lately been filed through Senator Towle of Boston, known as the peach yellows bill. A bill of this kind has been before the Committee on Agriculture the past two years and been defeated. In two years there has not been a peach grower in the State to testify for it, and if there is such a large number of petitioners in its favor, where are they and why don't they show up? The growers all feel able to cope with the trouble. We understand the bill, as presented this year, is for local option in the matter, but we believe this is only a wedge to get the law on the books.

THE mover may be sincere in his belief that such a law is needed but the peach growers think it is only another useless commission for the State to pay. It had proved satisfactory in Connecticut, why would it have been abolished there? The mover claims the fruit from a tree that has the yellows is unfit to eat. We all know it is not as good, but whoever heard of it's making any one sick? In my opinion, it is not half as bad as the hundreds of bushels of green apples and other green fruit that is sent to Boston market every year. If there are so many premature peaches shipped to Boston from the adjoining States where this law is in force, and are so injurious to the public health, why does not the Boston board of health look after it? They certainly ought to be competent judges. If the mover of this bill feels so confident such a law is needed, why does he not call a meeting of the peach growers in the State and talk the matter over, and if he can bring evidence to convince them such is the

value of milk when it is delivered to the factory depends largely on the care it has received previous to delivery, and its condition as well as its fat content should influence the price paid for it. Every dairyman knows that the handling of milk the first few hours after it has come from the cow has a great influence on its quality and the quality of the products made from it. The care of milk seems a simple matter, but better methods in our dairies are of the greatest importance to the success and reputation of American dairying.

It is to the interest of every patron of a creamery or cheese factory that the milk used shall be the best and purest that can be produced. Anyone who increases his monthly check by adulterating the milk, accepts payment for what he did not deliver, and is stealing that amount from others to whom it belongs, but anyone who delivers badly contaminated milk to a creamery does even worse. His milk may spoil the entire production of the day, and thus largely decrease the returns to every patron. Butter and cheese makers should absolutely refuse to accept milk that is tainted or unfit for use; they must do this in justice to themselves and to patrons who deliver good milk.

The attempt has sometimes been made to estimate the losses caused by skimming and watering, and enormous amounts are named, but it is not believed that these nearly equal the losses



## Care of Milk on the Farm.

Many dairy farmers are prosperous and have established the fact that the dairy industry can be made to yield good profits, while others, who seem to have the same opportunities for success fail to find the profitable side, says Farmers' Bulletin No. 63. In the endeavor to ascertain the most important cases of failure, expressions of practical men engaged in the different branches of dairy work have been sought. A large number of inquiries were recently sent out from the Dairy Division to butter and cheese makers and others, requesting them to state what part of dairying, in their opinion, is in the greatest need of improvement. The following are some of the replies received:

The delivery of milk by patrons and the proper care of it prior to delivery. Frequently milk is refused on account of its advanced decomposition. (From the manager of a creamery.)

The care and handling of milk on the farm and until it gets to the creamery. (From a butter maker.)

The careful handling of milk and its delivery to the factory in good condition. (From the salesman of a cheese factory.)

Care and handling of milk before it gets to the creamery or cheese factory. (From an operator.)

Taking care of the milk before it gets to the creamery. (From a farmer.)

Handling the milk from the time it leaves the cow until it is put onto the train. (From a milk dealer.)

Very few replies referred to the chemical composition of the milk or to the amount of butter fat it contained. Milk that is poor in fat naturally, or because it has been adulterated by skimming or watering, does not now give the butter or cheese maker much concern. Since the introduction of the fat test and the system of paying for the amount of fat delivered instead of for the bulk of milk there is no strong temptation to water or skim.

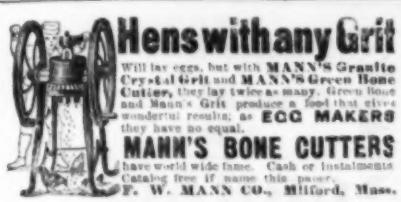
On a large proportion of dairy farms many of the fundamental principles which should be observed in producing pure milk are almost entirely overlooked. This is usually due to lack of appreciation of their importance more than to intentional neglect. In most cases bad conditions are promptly improved when their dangers are known. Special knowledge is as necessary in conducting the dairy as in other occupations. When one understands something of the sciences affecting dairying, the changes in milk cease to be mysterious, unexplainable phenomena, and the work connected with the dairy, instead of being unprofitable, uncertain, and monotonous, as some consider it, may become profitable, interesting and instructive.

JANUARY thaws often reveal leaky places in the roof, and especially near the gutters and chimneys. A convenient preparation for patching a roof is made from coal tar and sifted coal ashes mixed about as thick as mortar. Spread the mixture over the leaky places.

WINTER pruning of orchard trees will take a great deal of time if thoroughly done. Take out the wood that seems to be in the way and that of which the fruit cannot be reached by sunlight. Pear trees are much neglected. The best growers prune them considerably, removing many small branches every year or two.

A subscriber asks if there is any money in selling milk at 27 cents per can six months in the year and 23 cents per can for the other six months, when he has to buy all his grain and about one-half of his hay. We should say that it is doubtful if he made anything, but if he should put in a silo and kept every cow up to the standard, there would be some money in it. We know of one farmer that buys all his grain and hay and sells his milk to a contractor and makes a good paying business monthly. His cattle are fed at just such an hour and watered in their stalls with running water, slightly warm, and every cow has to come up to just such a standard. In this way he gets a good return for money invested.



**POULTRY.****Mr. Dawley's Ration.**

A poultry lecturer of New York State, a distinguished hen man, Mr. F. E. Dawley, gives the following as his favorite ration, one which he has fed with success for many years: 100 pounds of coarse bran, 75 pounds coarse meal, 100 pounds ground oats, 50 pounds linsed meal, 10 pounds ground charcoal and a very little salt. He adds this to chopped clover hay which has been steeped in boiling water and feeds it early in the morning. Feeds whole grain at night and green stuff or cut bone on alternate days at noon.

**A Common Winter Disease.**

A great many poultry keepers complain of roup in the flocks at this season. When not caught directly from other fowls the disease is induced by dampness and drafts. By way of prevention make the house as dry and warm as possible. Separate the sick birds to prevent their giving the disease to others. Gargling the throat of the bird with kerosene is a good remedy. Grasp the bird by the lower part of the neck to keep the liquid out of the crop. Give the kerosene with a spoon, let it remain a moment and then run out of the mouth. Also as a remedy give tincture aconite, 10 drops, tincture spongia, 10 drops, and enough alcohol to make an ounce. Put this in the drinking water, a teaspoonful to a quart. Roup is easily known by the symptoms like those of a cold with swelled air passages.

For destroying lice nothing is more sure than carbolic acid, which should be worked into the crevices around the roosts and nest boxes. Even kerosene is not certain, but the acid will fix them if it touches them.

The best market for home raised grain is a well kept flock of poultry.

To raise grain and turn it into eggs gives two profits. If the late pullets have not yet started laying they may be started during one of these warm spells by feeding them with chopped meat or cut bone. Put a little pepper with their morning feed.

Hens should be fed more like milch cows than is commonly supposed. Eggs and milk are somewhat of the same composition. Clover hay or ensilage, chaff and gluten feed all help make eggs.

A mild spell of weather in January is a good time to repair the breaks in the windows and other accidents which have happened since fall. Bank up if necessary to keep out moisture.

Where chaff is fed to poultry the manure will contain a great deal of weeds and grass seed. This manure should be used as top dressing on grass land and not applied where the weeds will be hard to manage.

Dr. G. M. Twitchell gives the following ration for laying hens: 25 lbs. each of oats, wheat bran and wheat ground together, 10 lbs. each corn meal, linsed meal, and 5 lbs. of meat scrap. He would feed it with cooked vegetables or steamed, chopped clover hay.

If the chickens roost in a tree foxes will not get them or anyone steal the eggs, for there will be none to steal.

**Looking Over the Premises.**

At this season of the year one can spend a few hours very profitably looking over the farm. Note carefully in the mind all the little things that should be done. Let us walk around together this beautiful wintry morning and see what we can find to do that will bring us profit, comfort or happiness. We pass the wood house and take a peep inside. It is full of dry fine wood for the cook stove, the coal bin is nearly full of hard coal to make comfort and cheer for the family during stormy days and frosty nights. How about the cellar? Are the windows and doors closed? Is there a thermometer inside so that you can see at a glance how cold or warm it is? This will cost but a few cents and may save dollars. How about the poultry house? Have you one or do you let your chickens roost on the trees and in the barn? It costs but a trifle to make a good warm house for fifty chickens. Ours is 12x24 by 6 feet high, sided with good drop siding and ealled inside and overhead with matched lumber, with tarred paper under both siding and ceiling, and a long window on the south side. This gives ample room for fifty hens. This house was built a number of years ago complete and painted two coats for less than \$25.00. Did it pay? Did you ever notice that the first man to ask this question or the first man to say, "It don't pay," is the man that makes nothing pay. Yes, it paid us the first year.

How about the barn and stables. Let's go in. Yes, here is plenty of hay, corn stover all in, some of it shredded last week to make variety for the cows and horses and what they don't eat makes the best absorbent that can be had. When you clean the stable this morning, boys, take this coarse litter and put it along the row of blackberries, and tomorrow morning put it along the raspberries, then the gooseberries, currants, grapes, roses, and don't forget to put it on thick, but when you get over to the strawberry patch spread it thinly, say about two inches deep all over.

How about water for the cows? Do they drink out of the creek through a hole cut in the ice. No, here is a large cement tank full of water and no ice in it either. How can this be? The mercury stands 6 degrees this morning which is 26 degrees below the freezing point and this tank out here not frozen over. Let's go and see. "Well, if that don't kill you?" That tank of water is ready for the cows now and it's steaming. Must be a fire in it? No, there is none in sight. Let's see how warm it is. Here is a floating thermometer, throw this in and see. Sixty degrees, and steam coming in at the bottom through the supply pipe. When the water is warmed to 70 degrees then the steam will be shut off and the cows let out to drink. You ought to see them drink this water at a summer temperature; all their hides will hold, Roy says. This is the way we water our milk. Does it pay? There it goes again. It cost us \$3.25 to attach a steam pipe and valve from our little boiler in our dairy house to the supply pipe that fills the tanks, and now the escape steam or live steam can be used to warm the drinking water for all the stock on the farm. Our milk yield from the same number of cows and the same feed increased 30 quarts per day within three days after this "steam bath had been wafted o'er the waters." This milk is worth to us five cents per quart, which means \$1.50 per day, or the first cost in two days, nearly. If you will figure this you will see that it is a better paying investment than bank stock. If we did not have this boiler we would use one of the many tank heaters. Coal or wood is cheaper fuel than corn, hay and oats.

This cold weather is just what we need and must have. It purifies the air, freezes and disintegrates the soil and makes a supply of ice for us at one and the same operation. By the way, that reminds us of the ice house. Yes, the old sawdust has been cleaned out to the ground and the ground is frozen nearly two feet deep. It is ready now to put the ice in. We put the ice right on this frozen ground and pack it as closely as possible, then cover it about eight or ten inches thick on top with sawdust. The sides are made a little thicker, about twelve inches. Last year the boys put too much sawdust on top in the one house and it melted the ice badly. Every farmer should have a supply of ice for use in his family if not in his dairy. It will cost but little to secure a supply of ten to fifteen tons and it is a real luxury as well as a necessity. Some fifteen years ago we made a rain pen ten feet square, put in a cube of ice eight feet square and covered it with sawdust and it lasted us till the first of September. Put away some ice and take cool comfort next July in homemade ice cream, lemonade, iced tea, cold cream for your strawberries, etc., etc. Yum, yum, goodie, goodie, don't it pay.

Now, let us go over to the pig pen and hog yard and see how they are getting along. There they come. Always hungry. Well, what did you have for breakfast, Mr. Sausage. Pudding? "Yes, it was made in a barrel last evening. The boys put in one-half bushel of starch, some oilmeal, about five pounds for ten of us, then they put in about a peck of cornmeal and a fourteen-quart pail full of sweet milk. They let it soak all night in that barrel there in the ground and this morning they eat it out with a shovel and gave it to us. The old man calls this a balanced ration, but we have no big name for it and so we just squat for more. We were talking with some of our cousins through the wire fence yesterday and they wanted to know what made us so sleek and plump this cold weather. We told them about our pudding and they said they had corn for breakfast, corn for dinner and corn for supper every day and had to eat snow for drink. Oh! but they look bad. Some of them died with cholera last week and the others said that they were just starving for something to eat, although they had corn in their pens all the time."

Did the pigs really say this? Yes, just as plainly as pigs can talk. They talk by signs and these signs are very plain. There are so many things to look after that we will go again some other day and look after the fences, drains, timber, etc., —Cal Husselman, in the Farmer's Guide.

Watch the newly set trees in the orchards. The sections of country visited with drought the past season are already complaining of the deprivations of mice. If snow comes, brush it away and examine to see if the mice are gnawing the bark of the trees. It may be necessary to wrap the trunks of the trees with tarred paper. From the ground up a foot high will be enough, if the mice are to be found gnawing there.—Ex.

**APIARY.****Handling Bees: Smoker, Veil and Gloves.**

The bee-smoker is an absolutely indispensable implement for the bee keeper. If you have but one colony, you must have a smoker, otherwise you cannot handle the bees. There are times when honey is coming very fast, when we can work among the bees without a smoker, but as a rule it is best never to do any manipulating, unless we have the smoker handy. We should have a respite from milking of two or three months before the next calf is born. From the writer's personal experience and observation, there is reason to believe that the cow which dries for sixty or ninety days before calving will make equally good returns for food and care as one that is milked to within a month of parturition. During this period of non-lactation the cow should be fed good, nutritious food; and with most animals it is desirable that even a half-fat condition be reached before the calf is born. A cow in which the material instinct of milk-giving is well developed draws upon this fat to augment her yield.

When you want to open a hive blow a few puffs of smoke into the entrance and the guards will scamper back and give notice that an unconquerable foe is outside, and on taking off the lid give a few puffs over the tops of the frames, when the bees will begin to fill upon honey, and if your bees are not ugly hybrids, that is nearly all the smoke needed. But if you have cross hybrids and the robbers are about it is sometimes necessary to have a constant cloud of smoke on the hive or the bees will become furious. Whenever bees show fight, while manipulating, use smoke immediately; don't wait until they get worked up in their anger and emit poison, as it then takes more smoke to quiet them and they are unpleasant to handle.

The blacks and hybrids if smoked much will run wildly over the frames and cluster on the corner, drop off and make a nuisance of themselves generally, for that reason more than any other I prefer Italians.

The best fuel to use in the bee-smoker is solid wood, perfectly dry. I saw maple into blocks the length of my smoker barrel, and split it into sticks, one-fourth to one-half an inch in diameter, and dry it in the oven. My smoker filled with that fuel will last for three or four hours' work without further attention. It gives a nice smoke free from sparks or ashes and is not so unpleasant to the operator as that from rags, tobacco or other rubbish often recommended.

In fact by using any rubbish that may be at hand we discolor our honey and sections and indeed, may impart a bad flavor.

There are a number of smokers on the market, some good, some indifferent, and some poor. After trying and wearing out about a bushel basketful of various kinds, I have come to the conclusion that for good solid service the Birmingham is quite ahead of all others. The large size will give the best all-round satisfaction; when most needed it is always ready, while some are always choked up when the bees get cross and that is exasperating.

With a good smoker properly used, the bee-veil and gloves are not needed. When the weather is very hot it is extremely unpleasant to wear a veil and gloves at best, and we should learn to handle the bees without them.

Avoid all quick or jerking motions; know just what you want when you open the hive, and do it expeditiously, so as not to have the hive open too long, because if the honey is not coming in plentifully, robbers will be about and by having a hive open a long time, we often start a robbing rampage that is hard to conquer. Of course, the timid beginner had better wear a veil until used to bee habits, otherwise he might become excited, excite the bees, and in turn, get stung severely.

With a good smoker properly handled a colony of bees is as easily and safely handled as is a flock of sheep with a trained shepherd dog.—L. W. Lighty, in the American Gardening.

**Care of Cows at Calving.**

A critical time in the cow's existence is at her periodical calving time. This period is the culmination of a season's devotion to the growth and development of her young and, incidentally, making preparation for milk giving. In her natural state, the cow feeds her calf a short time only, so that it is early taught to be self-reliant. This is necessary, says Nebraska Farmer, since if the calf were to depend upon the dam for sustenance long, in colder latitudes at least, winter would prove too severe for it. The aim of man in domesticating the cow for his use has been to lengthen the milking period against the cow's habit of reducing her flow of milk after becoming pregnant again. And his greed for a long milking period in dairy cows especially, has entailed disease upon the cow and a weakened condition in her offspring.

**Hood Farm Jersey.** FOR SALE.—Bull calf, solid color. Dropped Nov. 18, 1897. Sire, Hood Farm Pug, a son of Katahdin's Family, with a record of 11.5 lbs. of milk per day. Dam, Fancy Bee, 16 lbs. 8 oz. 2d. Beeswax, 17 lbs. 6 oz. 2d. Ethel 2d, 30 lbs. 15 oz. 3d. dam, Bisma 3d, dam of 3 tested cows. Write for price.

Now, with a steadily increasing population without a corresponding increase in the number of cows in the United States, it seems reasonable that it will not only pay to take good care of the cow, but to care for her in such a manner as to enable her to give birth to a robust vigorous calf. In order that all this may be brought about, the cow should have a respite from milking of two or three months before the next calf is born. From the writer's personal experience and observation, there is reason to believe that the cow which

dries for sixty or ninety days before calving will make equally good returns for food and care as one that is milked to within a month of parturition.

This summer passing along the road to the county fair, I saw fields of so-called corn, which were so swamped with weeds that one could barely trace the rows at a little distance. Lack of thoroughness in culture was at the bottom of this failure; just over this fence was a piece owned by a thoroughgoing farmer which was clean and well-eared. Times were hard with the slipshod farmer, as he himself told me; they always will be. His entire farm and buildings looked as if a blight had struck them.

What can be done for such farmers? They rarely subscribe to farm papers; and if they do they will not believe the articles they read are true. They never attend any farmers' meetings. If they go to the fairs, you will find them around the side-shows or on the merry-go-round.

The only hope for such men lies with the boys. Boys are ambitious. They like to appear as well and to do as well as their neighbors. One really practical and thorough going farmer in a neighborhood will do more toward awakening an interest among those about him than can be done in any other way. People study his methods and gradually come to try to do as he does and the result is a steady rising toward better things. I have great hopes from the young men of this country.—E. L. Vincent, in the Ohio Farmer.

There is no good reason why lack of shelter should exist on any farm for the cattle or other stock. If a good board cannot be afforded, there are rails, pine poles and cornstalks, and any humane, ambitious farmer can with these things make a comparatively comfortable shelter. Make these shelters with the openings to the south, and if a location can be had on a hillside sloping to the south so much the better, as there will be more protection from cold winds.—Ex.

Which Rides?

When a man is sick his work rides him instead of his riding his work. His daily task is to bear him about the means which supports and carries him on to comfort and prosperity becomes an overburden which weighs him down. He has no strength, no ambition. He feels that he is nothing but a load, but is obliged to stagger along until the awful pressure of disease and trouble at last crushes him to earth.

The prosperous man is the one who keeps the upper hand, because he is strong, capable and energetic. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Record has brought the best kind of prosperity to thousands of overburdened men and women by giving them the physical strength and stamina to carry on their work easily.

"For the last three years," says Mr. J. C. Morgan, of Monongah, Marion Co., W. Va., "I have suffered from indigestion complicated with complaints that generally accompany such cases. A doctor prescribed a diet of light food, a lot of gas and a heavy load in my stomach. I was greatly discouraged. I described my case to Dr. Pierce's staff of physicians and they directed me to follow his directions. I did so, and am happy to state I experienced no trouble whatever. I have learned of what he has learned in his own experience, which has been of great value to me in understanding the whole subject. Any of our readers who keep cows, whether one or hundred, will do well to consult him. I am sending to the Mass. Ploughman one copy of the *Mass. Ploughman* for Boston, Mass.

DR. T. A. BLAND, BOSTON.

How to Get Well,

How to Keep Well,

DOCTOR BOOK.

Its advice is sound, sensible, safe. Rev. Dr. T. A. Bland's charming book,

which cannot fail to do vast good." Third edition revised and improved. Price only \$1.00. For sale by

MASS. PLOUGHMAN, 178 DEVONSHIRE ST., BOSTON.

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BOSTON, JANUARY 29, 1898.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

## MASS. PLOUGHMAN FARMERS' MEETING

Saturday, January 29, 1898, 10 A. M.

ESSAY BY JOHN WEBER of Wrentham, Mass. Subject—Duck Raising.

THE NEXT MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN Farmers' Meeting will be held at Wesleyan Hall, 36 Bromfield St., Saturday morning, Jan. 29, 1898, beginning at ten o'clock. Mr. John Weber of Wrentham, Mass., will speak on Duck Raising. The Weber Bros. of Wrentham, Mass., are well known as duck raisers. Young men full of energy, quick to seize every opportunity by which they may improve themselves and increase their income in their chosen occupation, they have built up for themselves an enviable reputation and business from very small beginnings. Their record is an incentive to the young men on the farms scattered all over New England. Mr. John Weber will tell in a plain, practical way those who attend our next Farmers' Meeting, how to raise ducks at a profit, and the meeting will be well worth attending. Both farmers and their wives, young and old, will be cordially welcomed.

No use to try to grow cabbages except on fresh land almost every year.

A SUCCESSFUL farmer must have capacity. Capacity is common sense with brains in it.

BAD butter and oleomargarine are twin foes to the dairy market, but good butter is death to oioe.

THE man who keeps a cow boarding house furnishes poor grub, and will naturally receive very poor pay.

FOR the man who learns to do his duty, success will take care of itself. But such a man can get along better without success than others can with it.

NOR all the girls wish to marry city men. Fortunately there are many of the best who are willing to share the difficult work of starting a country home.

IT used to be the custom to send the smartest boy of the family off to college. If he had been kept at home farming would be a different business now.

If the city woman and her servant girl, either of them had to do half the work that the farmer's wife does all alone, they would consider themselves worked to death.

WITH the approach of better times farms are likely to increase in value. In all probability they will never be cheaper than they are now in this section.

DIFFERENT sections different crops. While the typical far western farmer produces nothing but wheat, there is many a New England farmer boy who has never seen a field of wheat.

SOME of the most enterprising of the farmers are making money from greenhouses. They pay taxes on the land the year round and believe in making the lazy land work in winter as well as in summer.

SOME apple orchards are being set by the new plan according to which twice as many trees are set as will be wanted when the trees are full grown. When the trees begin to get crowded every other one is cut out.

RICH food makes rich manure, which makes big crops, which make prosperous farmers. Rich manure making foods like bran gluten and cotton seed can be bought for their feeding value, and the fertilizing value is thrown in.

FARMER SLACK thinks he deserves praise because when all the men in the neighborhood are out fox hunting, he stays at home; but as he spends four-fifths of his time around the house fire or the grocery, the virtue of his action is doubtful.

THE NEW ENGLAND Milk Producers' Association has received a strong infusion of new blood, and a great many milk producers are very glad of it. However it must not be expected that the new management will produce any very startling results this year. The production of milk is increasing so fast that even to retain the old price is not very easy. If the old surplus clause can be held, and the milk producing territory strictly limited to its present boundaries producers need have no reason to feel dissatisfied.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED by local application, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube, and the tube gets inflamed by having a rambling course of imperfect hearing, and if it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and the tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever. Nine cases out of ten can be cured, but there is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circular.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O.

£ Sold by Druggists, 75c.

## CURRENT TOPICS.

The strike situation in New Bedford remains unchanged but the number of those needing charitable assistance in the city is increasing. The strikers are receiving financial aid from out of town and are on strike pay. An investigation of the labor condition in New Bedford is being made by the labor committee of the legislature which is arousing considerable interest.

The total eclipse of the sun as viewed at Bombay was accompanied by a rapid fall of temperature. An earthy smell pervaded the air; and the scene resembled a landscape under a wintry English sun. The duration of the totality was two minutes, with a marvellous corona of pale silver and blue. The conditions were favorable at both Professor Sir Norman Lockyer's camp near Vizadrog (on the Malabar coast) and at Professor Campbell's camp near Jeer. The native astrologers predicted terrible calamities. The natives swarmed to devotional exercises, and there was general fasting, but no alarm. The Nizam of Haiderabad liberated fifty prisoners, giving each a gift of money and clothes. A despatch from Professor Lockyer from Majapura says that sixty spectrum photographs of the eclipse of the sun were secured. Some of these have been already developed and are found to exhibit changes in the aspect of the chromosphere second by second at each of the four contacts. The despatch says that the weather was perfect and that Lord Graham's cinematograph work was successful.

RECIPROCITY negotiations continue to proceed in a manner satisfactory to officials, but there is no present prospect that treaties or agreements will be concluded in the near future. The negotiations with Peru are farthest along, and these have reached a point where the draft of a treaty has been made. There are a number of points open, however, and the Peruvian minister is now in communication with his Government with a view to closing the matter. In connection with the negotiations, he has received from Peru samples of the remarkable cotton grown in that country. Unlike the cotton of our Southern States and other cotton sections, that of Peru has many colors other than white. The negotiations have brought out, however, that freight rates are an element which give European countries a great advantage over the United States in the matter of trade with South America. In the case of Peru, the rate to the United States is the same as the rate from Peru to Liverpool, and thence to the United States. This, to a considerable extent, complicates the efforts toward securing reciprocal trade.

BRAZIL, Argentina and Chile have made no moves thus far toward reciprocity. A more satisfactory trade condition has been established with Argentina, however. It was understood at one time that retaliatory legislation would be resorted to by Argentina as a means of offsetting the Dingley act restrictions. This has not been done, and the new tariff law of Argentina is said to contain no provisions specially burdensome to American goods. Most of the ministers of the American republics have advised their Governments as to the Dingley provision on reciprocity and are awaiting instructions.

A new feature in Cuban affairs this week has been the sending of the U. S. Maine to Havana, this move being one which has been contemplated for some time by the U. S. Government. It has been believed that the former administration made a mistake in deciding, out of excessive caution and an overweening regard for the sensibilities of the Spanish public, to abandon the practice which had been pursued by our Navy Department in years past of sending our warships at intervals on cruises through the West Indies that frequently included stops at Havana. It was not regarded as consistent with our national pride that this practice, common to all maritime nations, should be abandoned or suspended, and it was believed that if it had been consistently adhered to there never would have been any complaint of the movements of our ships from Spanish sources. Besides, all nations have exercised the right to maintain at least a small naval force at ports inhabited by any considerable number of their citizens when there were signs of trouble that threatened their safety or their property.

Therefore the Administration decided to restore the old order of things as soon as it could be done without leading to misconception, and without its being interpreted as a war measure. The move is considered a wise one and serves to calm somewhat the sentiment in Congress which calls for radical measures. The Maine is one of the best battleships in the navy and its commander and officers are especially fitted for their important duties. While the move is said to be only one to protect the honor and dignity of the country, and there is no intention of interrupting in any way the present peaceful relations between Spain and the United States, yet it is noticed that a large fleet of American warships has been gathered together not far away from Cuba, and that if any contingency should arise which would require the use of these vessels, the United States is prepared to meet it without loss of time.

DON'T fool with inbreeding until you understand its principles. The same may be said of any breeding.

SOME of these mild winter days would be well spent visiting successful farmers and taking note of their ways. Seeing how things are done is much better than reading about them.

## Literary Notes.

A leading feature of the February HARPER'S is the first part of an article by George du Maurier, entitled "Social Pictorial Satire," which deals with the great satirists of Punch. The illustrations are from drawings by John Leech, one of which, "Mr. and Mrs. Caudle," is reproduced in color as the frontispiece. Other features are "Project for an Isthmian Canal," by Hon. David Turpie; "Stuttgart: The Modern City," by Elise J. Allen, richly illustrated by Joseph Pennell; "Roan Barbary," a novella of the turf, by George Hibbard; "Some Americans from Overseas," a description by Kirk Munroe, fully illustrated, of his adventures among the Icelanders and Russians of North Dakota; "The Due d'Aumale and the Conde Museum," by Henri Bouchot, illustrated from rare and unpublished documents and prints; "Undercurrents in Indian Political Life," by F. H. Skrine; and "Recent Developments of Musical Culture in Chicago," by George P. Upson.

The short stories of the February HARPER'S are "A British Islander," by Mary Hartwell Catherwood, illustrated by Lucius Hitchcock; "Martin Farromer," by Margaret Merrington, illustrated by W. T. Smedley; "Roan Barbary," a novella of the turf, by George Hibbard; and "An Incident," the story of an attempted lynching, by Sarah Barwell Elliott, illustrated by W. T. Smedley.

HARPER & BROTHERS' publications for February include the following: The Vintage, a romance of the Greek War of the Independence, by E. F. Benson; The Awakening of a Nation, Mexico of today, by Charles F. Lummis; Elements of Literary Criticism, by Charles F. Johnson; Spun-yarn, sea stories, by Morgan Robertson; A Boy I Knew, and Four Dogs, by Lawrence Hutton; The Goldifice, and Other Tales of the Fair Green, by W. G. Van Tassel Sutphen; The Student's Motley: The Rise of the Dutch Republic, by John Lothrop Motley, condensed, with Introduction and Notes and an Historical Sketch of the Dutch People from 1585 to 1897, by William Elliot Griffis; Wonder Tales from Wagner, told for young people, by Anna Alice Chapin; International Monetary Conferences, by Henry B. Russell; A Little Sister to the Wilderness, a novel, by Lillian Bell (New Edition); The War of the Worlds, by H. G. Wells.

The February issue of the DELINERATOR is called the Midwinter Number and justifies its reputation as woman's authority in fashions and literature. The latest winter styles are elaborately illustrated and accurately described. Prominent among the literary features is an article on Household Expenses. "Social Life in English Provincial Cities," is a pleasing analysis of certain interesting environments. Dr. Grace Peckham Murray contributes a paper on "The Common Ills of Life"; "Mardi-Gras in New Orleans," a timely topic, is vividly described by Frances Courtney Baylor. In "The Care of Belongings" are many suggestions which will prove of material value to housekeepers. Blue-Print Photography is continued by Sharlot M. Hall. The "Bachelor Maid's Luncheon" is a graphic description of the details of a gathering which many readers will hasten to duplicate. An agreeable observance of the popular anniversary is outlined in "A Valentine Party." Mrs. Caldwell Jones' departmental, "Social Observances," "The Flower Garden," by Mr. Vick, "Fancy Stitches and Embroideries," by Emma Haywood, Knitting, Lace-Making, etc., add to the attractiveness of the issue. Issued by The Butterick Publishing Co. (Limited) New York; \$1.00 a year, 15 cents per copy.

WASHINGON NEWS.

The Agricultural Department is receiving numerous inquiries regarding the statement recently appearing in the papers that a cure of hog cholera had been perfected under the direction of the Department agents, and that the Department was preparing to furnish the cure to farmers desiring to use it. It has been done to contain no provisions specially burdensome to American goods. Most of the ministers of the American republics have advised their Governments as to the Dingley provision on reciprocity and are awaiting instructions.

"It has been absolutely proven" said Dr. Salmon, the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, who has the matter in charge, "that the administering of properly prepared serum is a practical and efficacious cure for hog cholera. The Department made very exhaustive experiments in Iowa last year, taking droves of hogs, and by the figures gained by comparative treatment, prove conclusively that a very large percentage of hogs can be saved from this disease, if properly treated with serum.

"This treatment" continued Dr. Salmon, "should not be confounded with inoculation, which signifies the introduction of live germs such as occurs in case of vaccination. The cholera serum is procured by keeping apart for treatment an animal—a horse or a cow—and injecting into its blood, a small amount of blood of a diseased hog. This will sicken the subject but he will recover, when another dose will be administered, and so on time after time until finally his blood becomes so impregnated as to render him practically cholera proof. His blood is let and the clot drawn off, leaving the thin portion, which is the serum. This is used to inject into the diseased hogs and operates to render them likewise cholera proof or even cures them of the disease after it is developed."

"How many can you save, Mr. Salmon, by this treatment?"

"Our experiments in Iowa show that with the treatment we have saved eight-five per cent, while without treatment only fifteen per cent have been saved. Iowa lost in 1896 about \$15,000,000 worth of hogs from cholera."

"You think, Doctor, that the farmers will have confidence in this cure and will apply to you for the treatment?"

"I do, undoubtedly. I anticipate that

## In What Does Woman's Beauty Consist Which So Powerfully Attracts Men?

s Not the Pretty Face Which Charms, but the Bright Eyes, Glowing Cheeks, Vigorous Vitality and Exuberant Spirits. This Hint to Wise Women Is Sufficient.

Beauty lies less in the features than in the condition and expression of the face. The Creator has endowed every woman with beauty and every woman in good health, who is of

face is plump and cheeks red, and my complexion pure."

Mrs. William Bartels, 238 East 84th Street, New York City, says:

"Dr. Greene's Nervura made a wonderful improvement in my health, and that dark, sallow look left my face. My friends hardly knew me. I have gained in flesh and am like a different person."

Mrs. C. S. Allen, of 128 Pearl St., Portland, Me., says:

"There was hardly any more color in my face and hands than in chalk. Dr. Greene's Nervura made me well, and restored my natural color and complexion."

Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, of 230 Hartwell's Avenue, Providence, R. I., says:

"My face broke out with pimples, and I was almost giving up despair when I got Dr. Greene's Nervura. Now I am well and strong, thanks to this wonderful remedy."

Mrs. S. R. Berry, of Lebanon, N. H., writes:

"Dr. Greene's Nervura has done wonder for me. I am strong again, and have got back my former looks and good color. A doctor met me a few days ago and said that I was doing wonderfully, that my eyes were bright, and that I looked well."

These are only a few of the thousands upon thousands of women who owe their present health and strength, and consequently their vitality, vivacity and enjoyment of life to the use of Dr. Greene's Nervura. And if the reader is wise, she will not hesitate or delay using this really wonderful remedy, this great natural boon to womankind.

If desired, Dr. Greene, 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., the most successful specialist in curing nervous and chronic diseases, can be consulted absolutely free of charge, personally or by letter.

## The World Over.

JAPAN is to test the port of Ta-Lien-Wan.

CHRISTIANS are being persecuted in Persia.

ERNEST BAZIN, inventor of the roller boat, is dead.

ITALY wants a treaty of commerce with United States.

RUSSIA's cereal acreage has been increased 400,000 acres.

CHILE expects war with Argentina.

THE ASSASSIN of Brazil's President has committed suicide.

THE BREAD riot in Rome caused the calling out of the reserves.

THE INDIA council has passed the bill providing for gold currency notes.

KING HUMBERT OF ITALY has signed a decree reducing the customs tariff on cereals from \$1.50 to \$1 until April 30.

JAPAN'S action in sending warships to China is regarded in England as meaning war; two French battleships have been ordered to China.

Russia is about to present a note to Turkey demanding payment of the whole balance of the indemnity of the Russo-Turkish war, amounting to \$7,000,000, with a view to making the sultan more docile in the settlement of the Cretan question.

GENERAL BOOTH had a big reception in Halifax. Large meetings welcomed him. It has been decided by the general to form a military and naval league and a naval base in the harbor.

THE PEOPLE'S ATLAS has signed a decree reducing the customs tariff on cereals from \$1.50 to \$1 until April 30.

THE SPANISH government has issued a decree reducing the customs tariff on cereals from \$1.50 to \$1 until April 30.

A PARTY of men and women from Halifax, Truro and Yarmouth, who were about leaving on a pleasure trip to Boston, New York and Washington, have altered their plans and will now go to Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto instead. This is owing to the experience of some Nova Scotia women who were going to visit the United States, wearing sealskin sacks. They feared trouble with customs officers when they reached the land of the free.

AN EFFORT has been made in Scotland to check the adoption of some steps to regulate the sale of foreign meats in Scotch markets. The fact is reported to the State Department by United States Consul Fleming at Edinburgh who says it is explained by the fact that the butchers buy American beef at nine to ten pounds per pound, and sell it at the same price as the Scotch beef, for which they pay twelve cents per pound. The directors of the Scotch Chamber of Commerce have taken the initiative in opposing the continued growth and removal of crops without lime, or to the leaching out of the lime, which is greatly hastened by the use of certain fertilizers, especially muriate of potash. The liberal use of lime should be accompanied by application of lime.

THE DEFICIENCY of lime is due to the use of lime in the soil, which is fatal to vigorous growth of crops. The Rhode Island Experiment Station has shown that this condition of acidity is wide spread, even in well drained soils not supposed to be sour, as well as in wet, wet soil. The excessive plowing under of rank, green crops without liming is apt to produce sourness. It was found in experiments at this Station that sulphate of ammonia was positively poisonous to plants on such soils when it was not used in connection with lime. When used with lime, the sulphate of ammonia was beneficial. This beneficial effect of lime was probably largely due to the fact that the lime restored the alkaline condition of the soil necessary to the transformation of the sulphate of ammonia into the nitrates so necessary to plant growth.

G. E. M.

## Liver Ills

Like biliousness, dyspepsia, headache, constipation, sour stomach, indigestion are promptly cured by Hood's Pills. They do their work

easily and thoroughly. Best after dinner meals. 25 cents. All druggists.

Produced by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. The only Pill to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

G. E. M.

Bring the boys to the next Ploughman Farmers' Meeting.

Liver Ills

## MARKETS.

## BOSTON LIVE STOCK MARKET

Cattle steady as last quoted—Sheep business unchanged—Hogs rule firm—Demand for Calves continues good—Milch Cows in moderate sale—Horses at steady values.

Reported for Mass. Ploughman.

Week ending Jan. 26, 1898.

Amount of Stock Market.

Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Veal.

This week. 3,579 11,273 31,000 581  
Last week. 3,579 11,273 31,000 580  
One year ago. 4,730 12,459 148 29,465 908  
Horses. .... 278

Total. .... 3,579 11,273

CATTLE AND SHEEP FROM SEVERAL STATES

Cattle, Sheep. Cattle, Sheep

Maine. .... 245 223 New York. .... 30  
N. Hampshire 210 650 Rhode Island 28  
Vermont. .... 110 731 Western. .... 2,768 9,656  
Massachusetts 188 13 Canada. ....

Total. .... 3,579 11,273

Values on Northern Cattle, etc.

Beef.—Per hundred pounds on total weight of hide, tallow and meat, extra, \$5 50 & 60¢; first quality, \$5 00 & 25¢; second quality, \$5 00 & 45¢; 2nd class, \$5 00 & 75¢; 3rd class, \$5 00 & 75¢; 4th class, \$5 00 & 75¢; some of the poorest, bull pairs, \$8 00 & 75¢; some of the poorest, bull pairs, \$8 00 & 75¢.

Working Hogs.—\$60 00 & 50¢; hams steady, \$60 00 & 50¢; bacon, \$1 25 & 50¢; ham, \$1 25 & 50¢.

Cow and Young Calves.—Fair quality, \$20 00 & 50¢; extra, \$40 00 & 50¢; fancy milch cows, \$50 00 & 50¢; fair and poor, \$10 00 & 50¢.

Stores.—Thin young cattle for farmers; yearlings, \$20 00 & 50¢; two-year-olds, \$25 00 & 50¢; three-year-olds, \$20 00 & 50¢.

Sheep.—Per pound, live weight, 2 3/4¢; extra, 3 1/4¢; sheep and lamb per head, 10 lbs., 2 1/2¢; lambs, 4 1/4¢.

Fat Hogs.—Per pound, 3 1/4¢ & 4¢; live weight, shotales, wholesale, \$1 25 & 50¢; country dressed hogs, 4 1/4¢.

Fat Hogs.—\$3 00 & 25¢.

Hides.—Brighton, 7 3/4¢ & 8¢ lb.; country lots, 8 1/4¢.

Calf Skins.—80¢ & \$1 40. Dairy Skins, 30¢ & 50¢.

Tallow.—Brighton, 3¢ & 4¢ lb.; country lots, 3 1/2¢.

Pelts.—40¢ & \$1 00 each; country lots, 40¢ & \$1 00.

ARRIVALS AT THE DIFFERENT YARDS.

CATTLE, SHEEP, HOGS, HORSES

Watertown, 2,902 10,303 17,763 525 218

Brighton. .... 677 910 13,295 356 60

General Live Stock Notes.

Supply of cattle not quite as large as last week, and the requirements of beef cattle not extravagant. Bids put upon country lots do not make owners happy, but they control their own market. Farmers are getting a good price for hams find a ready market, and common grades are not very acceptable to the buyer at weak prices. Hogs in demand at firm prices and considerable quantity, \$1 25 & 50¢.

Calves in good demand and although there is competition, dealers have their regular customers who will buy, and others who will let others take them. Milch cows hold a steady position and fair demand. The horse market is quickly improving, but no great rush as yet.

Cattle, Sheep. Cattle, Sheep

Maine. .... At Brighton. WA Farsham 5 1  
At Watertown. F H Kilburn 4  
Hanson & ... 28 C H Kidder 15  
H M Lowe 15 F S Atwood 15 4

Connecticut. .... At Brighton. H C Ostrom 14  
E H Thompson 10 A S Bailey 14

F W Wornell 223 Massachusetts. .... At Watertown. J H Neal 17  
E F Chapman 10 W Wardwell 17  
McIntire 17 J A Hathaway 5

J Jackson 15  
Libby Bros. 35  
P A Berry 10  
E Littlefield 14

New Hampshire. .... At Brighton. J S Hart 33  
Scattering. .... E H Eames 14  
D A Walker 6  
J H Gilmore 9

Northern. .... At Brighton. D Fisher 11  
W Fields 19

At Watertown. D Fisk 10 12  
A F Neal 15 150  
F W Wallace 55 251

Vermont. .... At Watertown. Williamson 15 2  
A A Pond 11  
G Dilling 15 15  
Wicker & ... 15 15  
Others. .... 25 375

Brock & ... 48  
Wood. .... 48  
W F Wallace 55 251

Boston. .... At Watertown. S S Learned 64  
Sturtevant & ... 86  
Haley 80  
W H Monroe 48 225

Hogs, Calves. Hogs, Calves

Maine. .... At Brighton. Vermont. .... At Watertown.

Hanson & ... 28 Carr & ... 31

H M Lowe 20 A H Vaud 90

Harries 28 H H Sturge 10

Felows 28 C & Co. 10

E H Thompson 10 W Ricker & ... 10

Others. .... 50 150

Wick & ... 15 150

Briggs & ... 20 375

Savage. .... 50 30

Wardwell & ... 12 150

McIntire 17 J A Hathaway 5

J Jackson 15  
Libby Bros. 35  
P A Berry 10  
E Littlefield 14

New Hampshire. .... At Brighton. J S Hart 33  
Scattering. .... E H Eames 14  
D A Walker 6  
J H Gilmore 9

Northern. .... At Brighton. D Fisher 11  
W Fields 19

At Watertown. D Fisk 10 12  
A F Neal 15 150  
F W Wallace 55 251

At Watertown. Williamson 15 2  
A A Pond 11  
G Dilling 15 15  
Wicker & ... 15 15  
Others. .... 25 375

Brock & ... 48  
Wood. .... 48  
W F Wallace 55 251

Boston Provision Market.

The pork market continues quiet, with prices steady.

Cans are quiet, with but unchanged.

Short cuts, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Pork, light and heavy backs, \$1 50 & \$1 50.

Pork, lean ends, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Ham, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Tongue, pork, \$2 50.

Pork, pickled, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Shoulder, bacon and fresh, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Shoulder, smoked, \$2 50.

Hams, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Bacon, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Pork, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Briskets, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Ribs, fresh, \$2 50.

Ribs, salted, \$2 50.

Sausages, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Lard, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Lard, in cans, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Lard, in pails, pure leaf, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Bacon, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Pork, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

Briskets, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

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Bacon, \$2 50 & \$2 50.

## THE HOUSEHOLD.

## HER NAME.

Such a wee, mischievous lassie!  
It tries one's patience quite  
To watch the child. She cannot do  
A single thing just right.  
"Tis "Kitty, don't say that, dear!"  
"O Kitty, don't do so!"  
These are the words that greet her  
Wherever she may go.

When, just at dusk, one evening,  
She climbed upon my knee,  
In playful mood I asked her name.  
"Yes, Kitty, but the rest—star?"  
She hung her curly head.  
The rogue!—for just a moment:  
Then "Kitty Don't," she said.  
—St. Nicholas.

## MOTHER NATURE'S CRADLES.

"Rock-a-bye baby, on the tree top,  
When the wind blows the cradle will rock;  
When the bough breaks the cradle will fall;  
Down will come baby, cradle and all."

Just about this time, high in the bare  
tree-tops, some little cradles are being  
rocked by that rather rough old fellow,  
North Wind, who brings from his great  
cave in the Northland troops of merry,  
dancing fairies, dressed in white.

"Old Jack Frost is here once again;  
He comes every winter, you know;  
But we're hardy and bold, and we don't mind  
the cold,

And we welcome the sleet and the ice and the  
snow.

And we welcome the ice and the snow.  
Old Jack Frost plays a rough sort of a game  
With the children, wherever he goes;  
He punches the cheeks and the noses—he twists,  
And he treads very hard on the ten small toes.

The boys and girls have their warm  
clothes and warm houses, but what of the  
many little insects out of doors? If we  
should start out to look them up we  
would find some under the loose bark of  
trees, some under logs, stones, etc., but  
most we could not find at all, for they  
pass away with the coming of cold  
weather, leaving behind their well-protected  
eggs, which the cold does not  
seem to affect. Many we may find if  
our eyes are sharp, but so wrapped up  
that nothing can be seen of the insects  
themselves.

Most insects pass through three  
distinct stages of development. The first  
is called the larva. The larva may be  
either a caterpillar, grub or maggot—  
these are the baby insects, just as they  
come from the eggs, and are very different  
in every way from the parent insect  
which deposits the eggs.

The second stage is called the pupa,  
or chrysalis, and from the chrysalis  
comes the perfect insect.

Some of the most familiar insects  
wisely choose the winter season as the best  
in which to pass through the second,  
or inactive, stage of their existence,  
when no food is required.

In the latter part of September and  
during October, those who take walks  
in the country, or through the parks,  
may have observed the large, green,  
coral dotted caterpillars, or worms as  
they are called, feeding upon the leaves  
of the trees and shrubs. They are usually  
found on the willows and maples. The  
elder-tree is also a favorite feeding-  
ground. This is the larva or caterpillar  
of the common brown moth, which  
most of the children know so well as  
one of the first messengers of spring. These  
caterpillars are hatched from the  
eggs during July, and at once begin to  
store the food which must last all winter,  
hence the devastation of our trees  
and shrubs.

When the caterpillar has reached its  
full size it selects a good place upon  
some twig, and begins at once to wrap  
around itself the threads spun from its  
own body. This forms what is known  
as the cocoon, which you are all familiar  
with. They are found attached to twigs  
of trees at this season of the year. All  
winter the cocoons swing and swing  
with the strong, cold winds which do  
not seem to penetrate the closely woven  
blanket of silk.

We cannot describe the wonderful  
changes which are going on so quietly  
inside the brown sheath—that is one of  
nature's secrets. But in March or April  
the warm spring winds awaken the  
slumbering insect, and forth it comes in  
all its beauty of color and form—a per-  
fect moth. In a home which was kept  
uniformly warm during the winter such  
a moth came out of its cocoon near  
Christmas time. This moth belongs to  
the night world of insects.

The moth usually lives from five  
days to two weeks. It does not eat,  
and in fact, seems to have no tongue.  
After depositing her eggs the parent  
insect dies.

All caterpillars have a peculiar  
fashion of shedding their coats. This they  
do several times during their lives, each  
time coming forth fresh and fine, often  
quite different in color though the  
distinctive markings are preserved. The  
last cast is made before leaving the  
chrysalis (which is inside the cocoon)  
and when they come forth we are  
amazed to find that the whole character  
of the creature has been changed. It no  
longer eats the same food; all its habits  
are altered.

An error which is quite common is  
made in calling all the crawling things  
which we see worms. As a matter of  
fact most of the crawling things which  
we see in the fall are caterpillars whether  
they are hairy or not.

A more familiar kind is the common  
brown woolly worm, or hedgehog cater-  
pillar—the common caterpillar. This  
is one of the few insects which pass the  
winter in the caterpillar state.

During April it retires into its cocoon,  
a loose affair formed of its own hairs in-  
terwoven with coarse silk. The cocoons  
may nearly always be found in places  
similar to those in which it spent the  
winter snugly curled up into a sort of  
ball. About the last of June the adult  
moth破壳而出。 It is of medium  
size, dull orange in color, with three  
rows of black spots in the wings. It is  
called the Isabella tiger moth.

The spinning organs of caterpillars  
consist of two long sacs situated on  
the side of the body and having a com-  
mon opening on the lower lip. The  
web of the spider comes from the web  
sacs in liquid form and hardens when it  
comes in contact with the air, and this  
is probably true of the web of the cater-  
pillar, as it would be almost impossible  
to secrete the material in the hardened  
form.

Beneath the loose bark of trees, under  
logs, planks, stones and similar places,

many of the small caterpillars spend the  
winter in the pupa or chrysalis state;  
some spin cocoons before they change  
their caterpillar coats for the strange  
looking chrysalis, and some do not.  
The cocoon is merely an outer wrapping  
to shelter and protect the chrysalis, and  
some of those caterpillars which do not  
spin cocoons go down under the ground.

Common among the latter is the large,  
green tomato or potato worm, with a horn on its tail and white,  
oblique stripes on its sides. Like the  
others it sheds its coat several times, and  
the last change before the final one  
leaves it with a handsome bronze coat  
striped the same as before.

The moth which comes from this  
chrysalis is very large, measuring about  
five inches across the extended wings.  
It is gray in color with black markings.  
On each side of the body are five black  
circled orange spots, which gives it the  
name of Fire Spotted Sphinx. It flies  
and feeds at night. An interesting  
feature of this moth is its very long  
tongue, which when uncoiled, is five or  
six inches in length.

This moth is very different in form  
from the creopion. It belongs to the family  
of hawk moths, which resemble  
humming birds somewhat in form.

Late in the summer there are many  
dainty little brown, harmless looking  
moths, flitting about, particularly numerous  
in the vicinity of fruit trees. These are the parents of the mischievous  
little apple worm. There are two  
crops of these insects within the year, those  
which we saw several weeks ago being  
the adults of the second crop. The first  
brood comes out about the time of the apple blossoms, having spent  
the winter in the larval or caterpillar  
state. In the early spring they change  
into brown chrysalids, and shortly after  
the moths appear.

When the young fruit is forming the  
mother moth lays her eggs in the eye  
or blossom end of the apple, one egg in  
each. As she has about fifty eggs to de-  
posit one insect does considerable damage.  
The small eggs hatch in about a week,  
and the small caterpillars begin at once  
to eat it their way into the apple, blight-  
ing it as it falls to the ground; these are  
known as wind falls. When they fall the  
caterpillars make their way out, at-  
tach themselves to the bark, and spins a  
cocoon. Two weeks are required for  
this change.

Caterpillars may be distinguished  
from worms by observing these three  
general points. In caterpillars the head  
is distinct from the body; the body is  
divided into segments or rings, always  
twelve in number, and they have legs,  
the number varying.

There is often some confusion be-  
tween moths and butterflies. Most  
moths are nocturnal in their habits,  
while in butterflies the antennae are  
slender and clubbed and the insect flies  
and feeds by day. The body of the moth  
is larger and heavier than that of the  
butterfly and when at rest the wings  
are horizontal or slightly inclined,  
while the butterfly's are perpendicular.  
—Margaret Arnold in Child Garden.

## BABY GOES TO SLEEPY TOWN.

Baby goes to Sleepy Town a dozen times a day,  
But foolish little Baby-heart can never find the way.

Mother has to go along, and lead her by the hand  
All the way through Drowsy Lane and on to Shumber Land.

Oh, my little Baby-heart, learn the way to Sleepy Town.  
Don't you know, my eyes are shut before you lay me down.

## THE HOME CORNER.

## FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangements with the BAZAR  
GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able  
to supply our readers with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING  
PATTERN No. 7289. It is the most complete  
and the easiest to follow. Every one that has  
seen it says that these patterns are the simplest,  
most economical and most reliable patterns published.  
Full directions accompanying the pattern  
will tell you how to fit the glove to your hand  
with the greatest exactness. This pattern has  
been very popular with our readers, and has been  
highly recommended by many of the leading  
glove makers.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN COUPON.

Cut this out, fill in your name, address, num-  
ber and size of pattern desired, and mail it to  
THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN,  
BOSTON, MASS.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Pattern \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.

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## OUR HOMES.

## HER FACE.

Saintly Nature gave her—In disguise,  
Rugged and harsh she made her go about.  
With face unlovely, save the dark, sad eyes  
From which her fearless soul looked bravely  
out.

But life took up the chisel, used her face  
Hastily with blows as scotors use a block;  
It wrought a little while, and lo! a grace  
Pell-mell a sunbeam falls upon a rock.

Across her soul a heavy sorrow swept,  
As tidal waves sweep sometimes o'er the land.

Leaving her face when back it e'bed and crept  
Tranquill and purified, like tide-washed sand.

And of her face her gentleness grew part,  
All in her holy thoughts left there their trace;

A great love found its way within her heart,  
Its root was there, its blossom in her face.

So, when Death came to set the sweet soul free  
From the poor body that was never fair,  
We watched the face and marveled much to see  
How life had carved for Death an angel there.

—Selected.

## WHAT 'BIJAH HAWKINS FOUND.

BY J. H. MEAD.

"And how are your folks, Adzette?" said Mrs. Aijah Hawkins to her caller, Miss Adzette Dobbs, after having answered a similar inquiry.

"Well, I suppose we can't complain, Jane. Pa Dobbs ain't what he was; he has to sit all day without usin' his eyes, and, land o' goodness! I don't get a single minute till after supper so's I can read the paper to him. Then, you know, Aunt Phoebe's fidgety about draughts; if she had her way the house'd be like an oven, and she goes 'round the room pickin' at pa 'cause he's got in the habit of sittin' in her big chair by the fire; the one that Uncle Silas bought down to John Townsend's auction. I keep pretty well, though, and my lame shoulder ain't bothered me since I gave up the washin'."

"Exactly what I told 'Bijah. I said when Adzette Dobbs gave up her washing she'd soon forget that there was such a thing as a lame shoulder. 'Bijah said—"

"No, 'Bijah."

"You've heard Adzette say that the neighbors were talkin' down at Wyckoff's store about my buyin' it, and that they said Tom had told me there was money in it, haven't you?"

"Adzette told me Sam Wyckoff said that."

"Well, he ain't far wrong an' he ain't just right, neither. And now I'm goin' to tell you what ain't known to a livin' soul but me," continued 'Bijah, glancing furtively around as though to assure himself that they were alone. "The night Tom died I was ridin' home from Hadleyville, and as I was passin' his house I saw him fall, goin' up them rickety steps of his. I got out and helped him on to his bed. He was makin' somethin' about money and the Hadleyville bank. After a few minutes kinder roused up and whispered, 'It was good of you, 'Bijah, to help me in my bed. If I had anything to give, I'd let me have the washing done."

"Mary Finnigan said she was comin' to your place to wash last week," returned Miss Dobbs, "and when I heard it, I said right out plain that I was glad that 'Bijah Hawkins had given it at last; for I do think, Jane, that it was a shame for you to have that big wash on your hands, and 'Bijah just as well able to have it done as Pa Dobbs is, every bit."

This last remark Miss Dobbs emphasized by a determined shake of her head, and a straightening of her small body, as though she hoped the energetic pantomime might convey to the offending 'Bijah, who was just passing the window, some sense of his shortcoming in the matter under discussion.

The Dobbs and Hawkins families had been intimate for years; to have known Abijah Hawkins as Miss Adzette Dobbs knew him wi hout being aware of his dominant trait would have been impossible, and it was not in her nature to spread the mantle of charity over the failings of any, much less over 'Bijah's, for the man's prevailing characteristic was a grasping closeness which to her was an unpardonable sin.

To Adzette's last statement Mrs. Hawkins made no immediate reply.

She was a woman of meek temperament, seldom given to self-assertion and disposed to yield rather than contest disputed points.

Yet in some way best understood by herself, she had managed to live peacefully and in comparative comfort with her husband, a man whose name was a synonym for tight-fistedness and irritability of temper as well.

What luxuries the grudging, though well-to-do 'Bijah doled out to his wife were obtained by her usually at the expense of some concession of equal value as in the case of the silk dress.

By this transaction, 'Bijah figured,

much to his satisfaction, he was saving the difference between the cost of the dress and the added expense of help; but as Mrs. Hawkins felt fully able to take charge of household matters that winter, provided the washing was taken off her hands and as she had long desired the possession of a new silk, it will be seen that 'Bijah was not the only one gratified by the bargain. If he had suspected that Mrs. Hawkins, in her quiet way, had thus obtained a coveted addition to her wardrobe, and one which he never would have consented to buy outright, his perverse disposition would have rebelled and the purchase would never have been made; but, like all narrow, self-centred men, he was too well satisfied with himself to admit the possibility of being outdone in shrewdness, particularly by his wife.

"Now, Adzette," commenced Mrs. Hawkins in reply, after a short silence, "of course I know that 'Bijah might be—"

But at this point she was interrupted by 'Bijah's entrance.

"Good afternoon, Adzette. Come in to see if you'd heard that Tom Miner's house was to be sold at auction to-morrow?"

"Old Miser Tom's house sold?" replied Miss Dobbs. "Well, I never! Who'd buy it, I want to know? Tain't good for anything but old wood."

"Maybe it ain't an' maybe it is," said 'Bijah, mysteriously. "It wouldn't surprise me to hear that enough's been bound somewhere about that house to more'n pay for Old Tom's burrin'!"

"Well," said Miss Dobbs, as 'Bijah left the room, "I know they do say that old Tom had money once, and lost the

most of it years ago, helpin' his brother Amos out of some trouble he had when he was cashier of the Hadleyville Bank. That's the only good he ever did, though, for a more shiftless, good-for-nothing miser never lived."

This speech had been mainly a monologue for Mrs. Hawkins had followed 'Bijah from the room. When she returned, it could plainly be seen that she had been crying.

"Jane Hawkins, you've been cryin', and I want to know what's the matter," demanded the irrepressible Miss Dobbs.

"It's nothing, Adzette," replied Mrs. Hawkins, "only you know what store I set by my cellar, and now, just after getting it all to rights, with nice, new hanging shelves for my preserves, 'Bijah's going to buy that tumble-down house of Miner's and pile that dirty wood all over my clean floor. I declare it is provoking to have that old stuff tumbled pell-mell about my shelves. He gets it at what he calls a bargain, but I believe it's hard fit for kindlings."

At this recital of 'Bijah's latest usurpation of feminine privilege Miss Dobbs delivered some very forcible remarks about men in general and Abijah Hawkins in particular, at the same time consoling her listener with sundry of her own experiences, and recounting the trials of Ma Dobbs and Uncle Silas Merritt's wife, after which she took her leave.

Mrs. Hawkins' tearful remonstrance availed nought with 'Bijah. He attended the auction and bought the miser's house as it stood for something over twenty dollars, and with the assistance of a carpenter the building was torn down and the timbers carried to the cellar of his own house. The precautions he had taken, however, in demolishing the building, betrayed the secret of its purchase, and soon the story was told from end to end of the Four Corners that 'Bijah had bought it expecting to find a hoard of money which the old miser had secreted. So ran the talk of the village, but 'Bijah heeded it not. To his wife alone he betrayed an altered demeanor, and at times became quite sociable—for him.

"Jane," said he one night, as they sat together before the fire, "did I ever tell you why I bought old Tom's house?"

"No, 'Bijah."

"You've heard Adzette say that the neighbors were talkin' down at Wyckoff's store about my buyin' it, and that they said Tom had told me there was money in it, haven't you?"

"Adzette told me Sam Wyckoff said that."

"Well, he ain't far wrong an' he ain't just right, neither. And now I'm goin' to tell you what ain't known to a livin' soul but me," continued 'Bijah, triumphantly, slapping the bundle of bank notes down upon the receiving plate.

"Peww!" whistled the teller, humoring the depositor's whim. "That's quite a pile."

No sooner had the first bill slipped through his fingers than he stopped counting, gave the bill a sudden snap, smoothed it out and laid it aside. This process he repeated with bills taken at random from the pile, then rapidly counted the package. Gathering the bills together, he walked over to the cashier. A conversation followed, carried on in low tones, after which the cashier walked to the vault, from which he took a package of bills. These he compared with 'Bijah's, and the comparison appeared to confirm some opinion held by him self and the teller, for they turned and looked suspiciously toward the depositor.

'Bijah, who had followed every motion with increasing uneasiness, demanded anxiously, "What's the matter with the bills? Ain't they good?"

"I don't see quite what your getting at, sis," said Carlton, humbly. He was a well trained brother. Though frequently he was unable to grasp his sister's plan until they were explained to him in detail, he never failed to admire and approve. Nor was this instance any exception to the general rule, though he did say doubtfully once:

"It seems a pity for you to give up a room you like so well."

And Florence made haste to reply: "You don't suppose that I'll mind that, do you, if only we can make her happy?"

When Mr. Wheeler was asked to have a door cut from Florence's room into the north chamber, he opened his eyes rather widely; and when she explained further, he said that she had too many notions in her head for a sensible girl. And then Florence eagerly proceeded to convince him that she was right, and Mr. Wheeler listened, sipping his coffee and feeling on the whole rather proud of a daughter who, instead of crying or sulking over not getting her own way, sweetly set to work to reason him into her own way of thinking. The result of her conference was that Florence was not only given permission to have the door cut through but to make any alteration she thought advisable.

The most important of these was the modification of the gas grate. Grandmother Wheeler had told Florence in confidence that it made her feel creepy to see a fire blazing away and never burning anything but itself. So it is place of the convenient and modern grate was substituted a fair imitation of the one beside which grandmother's rocker had swayed and creaked for forty years. The chandelier came down, too, because grandmother could not understand how people preferred to scratch a match and light a lamp in the good old-fashioned way. Moreover she knew that the much-praised electric lights were own cousins to the lightning, and she felt sure that sooner or later, they would conduct themselves in a manner suggesting the undesirable relationship.

It must be admitted that Carlton looked shocked when Florence announced her plans for papering the rooms. They were frescoed at present in the most delicate and tasteful tints, and Carlton said his sister reminded him of those plebeian people of whom European travelers tell, who occupy the palaces of a by-gone nobility and cover rare old carvings with the cheapest and gaudiest of modern wall paper. But Florence silenced him, if she did not convince him, by quoting:

"If she is not fair to me,  
What care I how fair she be?"

The clerks at the down-town shops where she applied for aid in this latest project, looked more aghast than had

something for helping him when he was sick, too."

News of this importance needed no repetition before Miss Dobbs, and before night the Four Corners knew that 'Bijah Hawkins had been rewarded for his purchase by finding a large amount of money.

"Fourteen hundred and seventy-six dollars," said 'Bijah, the next morning, in answer to the inquiries of the villagers. "Pretty good interest on twenty dollars, isn't it?" he asked Sam Wyckoff, who had hastened to congratulate him.

As for Mrs. Hawkins, her cup was full. Within two days her new silk had been bought, Sarah Perkins had been engaged for the winter, and 'Bijah, in the flush of sudden wealth, had promised her bay window for her plants. This magnanimous treatment from her husband was received by her with becoming gratitude, and she had offered to wait until he had deposited the money next week when he would be going to Hadleyville.

The consciousness of ownership was so enjoyable and so strong that he almost dreaded the day when the money would leave his possession. He counted and recounted the worn old bills, each time feeling an added satisfaction in the action, as he had never before handled or come in contact with such a quantity of money.

Early on the following Monday he and Sam Wyckoff started for Hadleyville. 'Bijah was in a jovial mood throughout the drive; the money was securely fastened in his coat pocket by means of large shawl pins, and as they rode along he went over the story of his purchase, laying special emphasis upon the shrewdness of his judgment, and then in a self-commendatory manner telling what he had done for Mrs. Hawkins.

Sam kept his own counsel, for he well knew the measure of 'Bijah's generosity prior to the finding of the money.

After reaching Hadleyville they stopped at the first bank, and with an air of importance 'Bijah accompanied by Sam, stepped forward to the teller's desk.

"The dear old lady will have to come to us now," he said, "and be made comfortable in spite of herself."

"Glad to hear it, Mr. Hawkins."

"There it is," said 'Bijah, triumphantly, slapping the bundle of bank notes down upon the receiving plate.

"Peww!" whistled the teller, humorizing the depositor's whim. "That's quite a pile."

No sooner had the first bill slipped through his fingers than he stopped counting, gave the bill a sudden snap, smoothed it out and laid it aside. This process he repeated with bills taken at random from the pile, then rapidly counted the package. Gathering the bills together, he walked over to the cashier. A conversation followed, carried on in low tones, after which the cashier walked to the vault, from which he took a package of bills. These he compared with 'Bijah's, and the comparison appeared to confirm some opinion held by him self and the teller, for they turned and looked suspiciously toward the depositor.

'Bijah, who had followed every motion with increasing uneasiness, demanded anxiously, "What's the matter with the bills? Ain't they good?"

"I don't see quite what your getting at, sis," said Carlton, humbly. He was a well trained brother. Though frequently he was unable to grasp his sister's plan until they were explained to him in detail, he never failed to admire and approve. Nor was this instance any exception to the general rule, though he did say doubtfully once:

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## ARCTIC LOVERS.

Southward the Ice and Snow have come—  
Strange lovers hand in hand,—  
Far wandering from their native home  
To seek a sunny land.

Deserted haunts of bird and bee,  
On branches gaunt and bare,  
They turn with arctic alchemy  
To gardens of the airt.

For weirdly now the Ice and Snow,  
Beneath a golden food  
Of sunshine, make the branches grow  
With polar fruit and bud.

And yet their witchery is vain,  
For swift as Orient night  
The sunshine brings these lovers twain  
A tragedy of light!—Harper's Bazaar.

## HOW GRANDMOTHER CAME HOME.

When the railroad came to Creston Grandmother Wheeler's heart almost broke. Not that the dear old lady was opposed to progress—though perhaps her definition of the term differed a trifle from that accepted by a younger and more matter-of-fact generation; but whatever her private opinion as to the comparative merits of the stage coach and the modern Pullman as a means of travel, it was not the mere advent of the railroad that stirred her wonder and resentment.

These emotions were due to the fact that the big, powerful company wanted the ground on which her home had stood for over forty years, and that the gleaming rails which she could not help thinking had an uncanny and almost evil look, were actually to run through her flower garden. As for the lilacs and the currant bushes, and the big maple which shaded the house, she could not trust herself to think of their fate.

So Grandmother Wheeler wept and wrung her hands, and her heart was near breaking.

Her son, Wellington Wheeler, who lived in the big city, fifty miles from Creston, was not sorry for the innovation. It had long been a real trial to him that his mother insisted on remaining in the little house where her husband had died, instead of enjoying the luxury of his elegant home.

Up the stairs, along the halls, through the door which Florence held open, Grandmother walked slowly. Once inside the sunny south room, she caught her breath. Her foot pressed a rag-carpet of familiar pattern, and here and there were the rugs which her own fingers had braided. The wall was hung with the pictures of the faces dearest to her. On the central stool stood her reliable oil-lamp, with its gaily decorated shade. Was her fancy playing her a trick, or did that door actually open into her own little bedroom, furnished with the very articles on which her waking gaze had rested every morning for such long years?

The grate, where the wood fire cracked, was her own grate, and her own rocker was beside it, and on the cushion a big Maltese cat purring contentedly. Grandma had always been the owner of a Maltese cat until six months previous when her pet "Star" had died. She had regarded him taking-off as providential, for she knew that the coming of the railroad would prove a death-blow to a cat as devoted to home as was "Star." Nevertheless, the sight of those yellow eyes, blinking contentedly from the cushions



## THE HORSE.

## Food and Care of Farm Horses.

It is not every farmer who is the fortunate owner of a stable of good horses but that improvement in feeding might be employed to advantage for the well-being of his stock and to his own interests. The feed for the horses on the average farm consist of a rack filled with hay, morning and night, with ten or a dozen ears of corn at each feed, or perhaps a gallon of oats occasionally for variety, and a filling up with water two or three times a day. This kind of feeding is generally the rule, and it is not much deviated from during the months of the year that the horses are worked and kept in the stable, and while a good condition of flesh may be maintained by the practice, it is not the best for insuring good healthy digestion and longevity to the animals. In the first place, the farm horse is deserving of the best that the farm produces, suitable for his food; this in the end is cheapest. A variety of provender should be mixed together, and the quantity of each kind so adjusted that the mass shall contain as much of the elements of nutrition and nitrogen as possible. In England it is the custom to feed farm horses, when at full wock, on vetch seed and beans (the latter crushed,) these containing an excessive proportion of nitrogen, mixed with bran, thus alternated with oats, either crushed or whole, makes almost an ideal horse feed. Except the bulky parts which consist of hay and straw cut and thoroughly mixed; it is then called "chaff." To every 40 pounds of this chaff mixture, 16 pounds crushed oats and four pounds crushed beans are added, and 36 pounds of the compound is used for a daily ration for the horse when at work. English farm horses are proverbially sleek, fat and well rounded out.

The stomach of the horse is very small in proportion to the size of his body, and to secure the best all round results, he should never be without food for any great length of time, yet farmer's horses often work eight or nine hours without a break; the stomach becomes empty and the intestines are filled, more or less, with gas, and when the animal comes to the stable water and food are at once given him, which he consumes voraciously to his injury, often followed by an attack of colic.

Whenever a term of work of unusual length is in prospect, and a long fast to be expected, the nose bag should be used, and the horse given his regular ration at the customary time.

Good hay stands probably first in importance in the list of horse foods, so far as rough provender is concerned. Many winter their horses, when standing idle, upon hay alone, others again on corn-fodder and straw, and if these materials are sound, bright, free from dust, and in every way of the highest quality, a degree of thrift and health will be maintained, that cannot be improved upon.

Straw if fed alone, however, and free access to it is given when the horse is doing no work, is not exactly the thing to insure best results; it is hard to digest, and there is danger of the horse eating more of it, while he is at rest and doing nothing, than the organs of digestion can dispose of, and then more trouble ensues.

The water supply in most farm stables is not adapted to the needs of the case, and doubtless much suffering is felt by the lack of a suitable supply at the proper time. By the best arrangement, and when practicable, the most economical and desirable, is the constant flow of water within easy reach of the horse in the stable. A system of pipes with valve and cup attachments is used extensively both in horse and cow stables, with great satisfaction. Animals can help themselves whenever inclined, but only a small portion at any one time; the cup holds a quart or two, and when emptied is slowly refilled and held in check by the valve, hence when horses enter the stable, tired, hot and famished, for drink, there need be no anxiety about their injury; getting it thus in small quantities invigorates and refreshes, and before they can drink too much, which may be done from a bucket, the system is in a proper state to receive all it craves.

For the health of the horses, the stables should be ventilated, kept clean and thoroughly drained. All manure and litter ought to be taken out, at least twice a day when the stables are in continual use. The temperature of the stable is important, also 40 to 50 degrees in winter and 60 to 70 in summer is about right, and much variation from these needs looking after.—Ind. Farmer.

LESS THAN HALF the price of straw is one reason why you should use German Peat Moss for horse bedding. C. B. Barrett, Importer, 45 North Market street, Boston.

## Boston Cooking School.

All ingredients mentioned in the following recipes are measured level.

The last lesson in the fall and winter course at the Cooking School was given Wednesday morning January 26, the subject being Luncheon Dishes. Beef and Rice Croquettes with Tomato Sauce, Fried Scallops with Sausage Tyrolienne, Luncheon Muffins, Spanish Omlet with Spanish Sauce, Cheese Fondue and Scallop Apple were prepared.

**BEEF AND RICE CROQUETTES.**—Mix one cupful of raw beef from the top of the round, cut fine, with a third of a cupful of washed rice; add half a teaspoonful of salt, quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper and a little cayenne. Wrap rounding tablespoonsfuls of this mixture in cabbage leaves which have been made pliable by boiling for two minutes, then stew for one hour in the tomato sauce given below, putting them in the oven. These will be found very good and somewhat novel. A generous half pound of beef will be required to make a cupful. Cabbage, when cooking, should be left uncovered, and a bit of soda may be added. A thick slice of bread, of close texture, put over the cabbage is frequently successful in keeping in the odor.

**TOMATO SAUCE.**—Brown four tablespoonsfuls of butter, add five tablespoonsfuls of flour, and brown. Add one and one-half cupfuls each of well seasoned brown stock and stewed and strained tomato, one slice each of carrot and onion, a bit of bay leaf, a sprig of parsley, four cloves, three-fourths teaspoonful salt, one-fourth teaspoonful pepper and a little cayenne. Cook ten minutes and strain. If the sauce is too thick for serving after the croquettes have been cooked in it, thin it with a little hot water or stock.

**FRIED SCALLOPS.**—Pour one and a half cupfuls of boiling water over one quart of selected scallops and let stand two minutes, or until they shrink. Or drain out the juices by putting them in a stewpan on the stove, reserving the juice which flows from them for a scallop broth. Drain, dry thoroughly between towels, season with salt and pepper, dip in fine bread crumbs, in egg and again in crumbs, and fry in deep fat. The parboiling prevents the juices from flowing during the frying process, which will cause the covering of crumbs to drop off and the fried scallops to be very unsatisfactory. Two eggs will be required for a quart of scallops, adding a tablespoonful of water to each egg, and beating it just enough to blend the white and yolk. The easiest way to crumb the scallops is to put the crumbs in a bag or paper and crumb them all together.

**SAUCE TYROLIENNE.**—Mix with three-fourths cupful mayonnaise one tablespoonful each of finely chopped capers and parsley, one finely chopped gherkin and two tablespoonsfuls tomato puree. The tomato puree is made by cooking half a can of tomatoes down to two tablespoonsfuls, straining the tomato first. Add a little soda to the tomato if it is extremely acid. Add the ingredients to the mayonnaise just before it is served, or it will liquefy. This will be found a change from Sauce Tartare usually served with fried scallops or fried smelts.

**LUNCHEON MUFFINS.**—Cream one-fourth cupful butter, add one-fourth cupful sugar, two well beaten eggs and three-fourths cupful milk. Sift two cupfuls flour with three teaspoonsful baking powder, add to the first mixture, and beat well. Bake in a hot oven about twenty minutes. These are better if baked in tin muffin pans, filling them half full. They will be found rather too rich for breakfast.

**SPANISH OMELET.**—Beat six eggs slightly, add six tablespoonts milk, one tablespoonts chopped green pepper, using none of the seeds, and one tablespoonts chopped onion in two tablespoonts of butter three minutes; add one and three-fourths cupfuls tomato, and cook until moisture has nearly evaporated. Add one tablespoonts each of capers and mushrooms, and one-third tablespoonts salt.

**CHEESE FONDUE.**—Pour one cupful sealed milk over one cupful stale bread crumbs. Add one-fourth pound mild cheese cut in small pieces, one



tive, yet they pass through their cycle only once in three years.

But, you ask, what will avail us to know these things if we cannot prevent insects from depositing their eggs, or the young from hatching therefrom? We do not care who the father or mother of an insect is, or how long it lives, how it feeds, or what its name is. We want to know how to kill them.

To destroy insects is easy enough, but to be able to do so in a practical manner, in an instant, and with the rapidity of lightning, is quite a different matter. A few moments' exposure may be the means of contracting disease which all the physicians in Christendom cannot cure. So may you, this season, lay the foundation for an invasion of insects next year which no power of yours can control for a single hour. You must fight insects precisely as a physician would attempt to cure disease, viz.: by removing the cause. An ounce of prevention is worth not only pounds but tons of cure.

Nature seldom rotates a crop, and insects infesting a natural flora cannot change with any great rapidity; their habits will not admit of their doing so. They are habituated to sameness. Hence, rapid and radical changes in vegetation, otherwise called rotation of crops, is not only exceedingly distasteful, but almost equally fatal to them.

You cannot usually raise a good crop of wire-worms, cut-worms, or white grubs

and rotate your grass lands every two or three years. A change from corn to small grain will ruin the best of prospects for a crop of the corn-root worm that ever existed, and it is not a bit of use to try to grow wheat straw worms and be forever changing from small grain to corn; besides, the Hessian fly seldom does well in a field the first year it is sown to wheat, unless it is in close proximity to a field previously devoted to that cereal. If, then, this mode of procedure, which is one of the chief elements of good farming, is so fatal to insect pests, why not apply it with greater frequency? Finally, is there any good reason for rearing such vast hordes of these insects? Is it not cheaper to prevent their increase than to undertake to kill them after they have well-nigh overwhelmed us?—Ohio Farmer.

But these are the more pretentious flowers of the front bed. There are the geraniums that have been house grown to set out and a bed of canna. There should be a bed of asters and another of larkspur, both of which come in a variety of colors, though the perennial blue is the best known. Another of German stocks or gillyflower, in mixed colors, and a bed of balsams, where they will not be hidden, as each plant of these is a bouquet in itself.

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A bed of poppies in some spot not too conspicuous, as the new varieties of double poppies are very fine and very showy, even at considerable distance. The same may be said of the zinnias.

But in, among and around all the taller plants do not fail to set or sow pansies and the fragrant mignonette, with the sweet alyssum, both almost perpetual bloomers until long after frost has killed many other plants. Verbena, too, and the dwarf nasturtiums may be used to fill in and cover bare places, remembering that pansies like shade and most of the others the sunshine. Pinks and their cousin, the hardy sweet William, and the annual and dwarf perennial phlox, show best in beds, as also do petunias. The white and blue ageratum and the lobelia are well adapted to make borders of blue and white, and there is a dwarf scarlet salvia, which is but a little taller, that may with them make a ribbon of the national colors if desired.

If vases are to be used, avoid painting them with glowing colors. An un-painted wood looks better, though brown, gray, or a pale blue or light green will not offend the eye by incongruity among the flowers. Beside the taller plants in them should be trailing plants, such as are used in hanging pots, to drap the sides and posts on which they stand, and they are better "half hidden, half revealed," among the other plants.—New England Florist.

We all know the style to which he referred, the stars and crescents, the circles and diamonds cut in the turf, with one or perhaps two narrow borders along the walk to the front door, all set with coleus, canna, geraniums and asters, all arranged in ribbon-like exactness, or in groups of one color.

When neatly arranged and well kept one such lawn is highly ornamental, but a hundred of them all alike along one street is tiresome from its monotony. When the taste of the gardener is manifested all in one color, as in long rows of scarlet salvia, beds of scarlet and crimson canna, scarlet and crimson geraniums and the most brilliant of colors, it becomes trying to the eyes, and on a hot day suggestive of such a blaze to be trying to the nerves as well.

Masses of blue or white are not quite as brilliant, and, therefore, perhaps, not quite as common, and groups of yellow are but little less hideous than the bright reds and may be restful to view at a little distance, though scarcely to be desired in the immediate foreground.

To start an old-fashioned flower bed, begin as an artist would in a painting with the background. Luckily, we have tall flowers which look well at a distance, either in groups or intermixed, so that colors may agreeably contrast. These are the sunflowers, from the mammoth Russian 10 or 12 feet high, with blossoms a foot and a half across, down to Sutton's miniature, whose blossoms are only an inch across, but borne so profusely that its branches are a golden glow from July until after very heavy frosts. There are the hollyhocks, of which some of the double varieties are as beautiful as a rose, and to be found in whites and the most delicate shades of cream, buff and pink as well as in deeper shades. These are hardy perennials. Dahlias, too, can be easily obtained, single or double, tall or dwarf, in almost every color or shade but the blue. And the old-fashioned four o'clock, with its great variety of blossoms, makes a beautiful low hedge, if rightly set. So also do the sweet peas, if given something to climb on, and no garden should be without them.

Unsightly buildings in the back yard may be hidden by the hardy perennial climbers, the ivy, the Dutchman's pipe, the trumpet vine, clematis, the honeysuckle or the wistaria, or by the annual morning glory, scarlet runner bean, hyacinth bean, cobe scandens, cypress

vine, mairandya tall nasturtium, and many others.

Some of these also may be used to advantage upon the front piazza and portico, and similar places where shade is desirable.

In starting the front garden one should not forget to plant in the turf on the lawn the bulbs of crocus and snowdrops; use the first named freely, as they are in a great variety of colors and not expensive, and blossoming as they do among the earliest of spring flowers they are a sight of beauty, and out of the way before the lawn needs to be mown. Do not attempt any arrangement of colors, but mix and scatter them as they chance to go.

One may have a few peony roots, it means will allow, and a bed of tulips, which bloom so early that the space can be used later for other plants, as zinnias and asters, both good cut flowers and profuse bloomers, but there should be a bed of lilies, of which there should be a variety, not forgetting the funkia or day lily. Once set they are permanent, and increase until it becomes necessary to remove a part of the bulbs to prevent crowding, and they should be kept in bloom, or some of them from June to October.

Beds of narcissus and hyacinths should be set in the fall, while in spring rows of gladioli and tuberoses may be put in. Where tall plants can be used the perennial phlox, both red and white, make a good show for awhile, or they may be placed in the rear with the hollyhocks.

But these are the more pretentious flowers of the front bed. There are the geraniums that have been house grown to set out and a bed of canna. There should be a bed of asters and another of larkspur, both of which come in a variety of colors, though the perennial blue is the best known. Another of German stocks or gillyflower, in mixed colors, and a bed of balsams, where they will not be hidden, as each plant of these is a bouquet in itself.

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After serious illness, like typhoid fever, pneumonia, or the grip, Hood's Saraparilla has wonderful strength-giving power.

For high-class courage and endurance I believe the trotter and pacer excel all other horses. If there is one thing more than another that I admire in man or beast it is courage. The grit that will cause a horse to try and keep on trying in a losing contest when he knows that his adversary has more speed is worthy of the highest commendation.

In my estimation the greatest horse of the day is Joe Patchen. He is courage personified. He does not hold the world's record, yet no one will say that he is not greater than the one which does. He will race and try to beat any and everything from a bicycle to a steam engine, and he never knows when he is defeated. He has been repeatedly beaten by Star Pointer, yet he will leave his dinner any day to go out and race with him. He is always ready to race and has done more hard work than any horse. I knew him as a green horse and saw him pace a half mile in one minute on the Holton, Kan., track. I also saw him choke down, fall to his knees, get up and beat to the wire gang of good horses and take a record of 2:19 3/4. He had a throat trouble at the time. Coming home to Kentucky, I told my friends that he was to be the greatest horse in the world, only to be laughed at by them. The laugh is on them now.—Breeders' Gazette.

They'll come to congress by and by.

We'll know them as they are there, And tell where each is seated by The tidy on the chair.

## BITS OF FUN.

"Yes," said the man whose narratives are almost invariably interesting, "I had some curious experiences in that mining country. One day I met two children with the dirtiest faces I ever beheld."

"Poor things!"

"That's what I thought. I said to them, 'Children, why don't you wash your faces?' and one of them answered, 'We don't. We've been playin' on pap's best claim, and he's liable to lose money if anybody touches us.'—Washington Star.

A Georgia man who went to Alaska to dig gold writes home from Dawson City:

"You may expect me in Georgia as soon as my clothes thaw enough for me to get my hands in my pockets and reach the money to pay for my ticket,"—Atlanta Constitution.

"The human race is divided into two classes," said Oliver Wendell Holmes, "those who go ahead and do something, and those who sit and inquire. Why wasn't it done the other way?"

They'll come to congress by and by.

We'll know them as they are there, And tell where each is seated by The tidy on the chair.

—Washington Star.

Mrs. K.—had engaged a robust, middle-aged colored woman to do some house-cleaning. During the process of the work Mrs. K.—said, "A colored man came along here one day last week and wanted work, and I let him wash some windows, but he did not do the work at all well."

"What's he?" asked the helper.

"He was a big strong fellow,

but one eye.

He said that his name was White.

He did very poor work."

"I specs he did, lady. He's de wus no

count, in de town."

"Oh, then you know him?"

"Know him? Why, lady, he's mah'ied to 'im!"—Harper's Bazaar.



Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Influenza, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Swelling of the Joints, Lumbar, Inflammation,

RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, Frostbites, Chilblains, Headache, Toothache, Asthma, DIFFICULT BREATHING.

CURES THE WORST PAINS in from one to twenty minutes. NOT ONE HOUR is needed to reverse this advertisement need any one SEE WITH PAIN.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF is a Sure Cure for Every Pain, Sprains, Bruises, Pains in the Back, Chest or Limbs. It was invented by Dr. Radway.

That instantly stops the most excruciating pains whether of the Limbs, Stomach, Bowels or other glands or organs, by one application.

With a few drops of water and a few minutes cure Cramps, Spasms, Severe Stomach, Heartburn, Nervousness, Sleepiness, Sick Headache, Diarrhea, Colic, Flatulence and all Internal Pains.

Fifty cents per bottle. Sold by Druggists.